

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: NEW EDD WORKFORCE SERVICES BRANCH

Attached is a statement e-mailed to the Employment Development Department (EDD) staff from EDD Director Patrick Henning. The e-mail describes a consolidation and streamlining of Job Service and Workforce Development functions, resulting in the creation of a new EDD branch, the Workforce Services Branch.

The consolidation is being implemented to better place EDD in a position to respond appropriately to the intent and mandate of the federal Workforce Investment Act, to better align our work with the policy initiatives of the Department of Labor, and to assist in moving EDD toward the Governor's goal of effectively streamlining State programs and services. A key consideration for Director Henning in making this decision was his interest in eliminating overlapping activities, functions and services, provided by the central office staff of those two EDD branches.

The new Workforce Services Branch will replace the current Job Service and Workforce Development Branches. We expect that this restructuring will be completed by the end of 2006. During the transition period, we will strive to continue our services to you without delay or interruption. The EDD values you as partners in the local workforce community and we will keep you apprised as things develop with the consolidation.

If you have any questions, please contact your [Regional Advisor](#) at (916) 654-7799.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Chief
Workforce Investment Division

Attachment

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Message from EDD Director regarding the consolidation of the Job Service Branch and the Workforce Development Branch into a new Workforce Services Branch.

In 1994, the Employment Development Department (EDD) began planning for the integration of employment and job training services with the implementation of California's One-Stop Career Center system. This effort included the voluntary collocation of Job Training Partnership Act staff with EDD Job Service staff at the local level throughout the state.

The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) formalized and furthered this integration of services at the field/local level by mandating the collocation of many federally funded programs, including the Employment and Training and Job Service programs, and the delivery of program services in local One-Stops.

More recently, the Governor challenged departments to review their organizational structure and consider realignment of programs by function to consolidate shared services.

These initiatives, coupled with an ongoing pattern of declining resources over several years, have required that we take a new look at how we can make the most efficient use of available resources to meet the rising demand for our critical services.

Therefore, I have elected to consolidate the Workforce Development and Job Service Branches. This decision demonstrates the Department's resolve to respond appropriately to the intent and mandate of federal employment and training programs, the policy directives of the Department of Labor as well as the Governor's goal to streamline State programs and services in an effort to be more effective and efficient with taxpayer supported resources.

The first phase of consolidation activity will begin during the fall of 2005, with the merger of the Job Service Branch's Operations Support (OSD) and Job Service Central Office (JSD) Divisions.

This new division, along with the field operations of the current Job Service Branch, will then combine in phase two with the Workforce Investment and Labor Market Information Divisions of the Workforce Development Branch to form the Workforce Services Branch.

The Field Divisions of the Job Service Branch will be Divisions in the new Branch and no immediate change to their mission or makeup will take place as a result of this consolidation.

In phase two, the Directorate will work with management and staff of the new Branch to analyze and evaluate similar central office functions (e.g. personnel, fiscal reporting and

budget activities, business services and automation systems support) for further consolidation. A primary objective of this integration will be the elimination of overlapping activities, functions and services and an increase in efficiency, saving both Wagner-Peyser and Workforce Investment Act dollars. Phase two will also begin during the fall, 2005. My expectation is that the Department will complete all necessary actions related to the consolidation during calendar year 2006. Savings realized will be reinvested in the services, programs, and operations of the workforce investment system.

This consolidation is a logical step in integration of functions necessary to provide improved structure for oversight and support functions at the Central Office level. It will assure consistent policy development and application to reinforce our efforts to deliver programs and services in a comprehensive system.

I will keep you apprised of developments in this area.

/S/ Patrick Henning
Director